GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3800
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007
REVIEW OF RIVER WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT
Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Pingle Shri Devidas Anandrao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Union Government has assessed the shortcomings during the review of the working of the National River Water Conservation Project in the country;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)whether a report on the health of children getting affected due to polluted water of the rivers in the country has been received;

(d)if so, the details thereof;

(e)whether the Union Government has formulated/is formulating any scheme to strengthen the existing conservation projects; and

(f)if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The Government has identified certain systemic issues affecting implementation of pollution abatement works for rivers under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). The major issues identified among others are inadequate funds for Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of assets created under the Plan by the State Governments, insufficient budgetary allocation for States' share, delay in the implementation of the projects due to land acquisition problem, among others.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(e) & (f) The Central Government undertakes regular review meetings and field visits to enhance the effectiveness of project implementation. It has also requested State Governments to have regular monthly meetings under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretaries for a time-bound resolution of inter-sectoral problems.